

REMARKS

In the First Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 11-17, objected to claims 3-10, and rejected claims 1, 2, and 18 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Lorraine et al. US 6,874,477.

Reconsideration and re-examination of the application as amended considering the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §102(b)

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 18 as being anticipated by Lorraine et al. (US6,875,477). Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the Examiner's rejection. However, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 18 to more particularly point out the invention as explained in greater detail below.

Lorraine et al. '477 discloses a conventional stamped metal spring clip to hold an injector to an associated cup during assembly. As explained by Applicant in Paragraph 5 of the specification, one of the advantages of the present invention is that it "allows elimination of any external injector orientation/retention clip and associated assembly steps." As also described in Paragraph 5, "the present invention may reduce radial or rotational variation of the injector when installed in the cylinder head/intake manifold by eliminating the additional tolerances associated with an injector clip relative to the cup/clip interface and the clip/injector interface." As such, the present invention teaches away from the use of a retention clip as disclosed in the '477 reference and provides various advantages over the use of a retention clip.

Applicant believes the claims as originally filed distinguish over the '477 reference in that the claimed invention states that the injector and cup include a coupling device, whereas the '477 reference discloses a separate coupling device (the stamped metal spring clip) that is used to couple the injector to the cup. As such, the coupling device of the '477 reference is neither part of the injector, nor the cup.

However, to advance the prosecution of this application and more particularly point out Applicant's invention, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 18 to point out that the coupling device is integrally formed in the injector and cup so that no additional coupling device or clip is required.

Summary

Applicants have made a genuine effort to respond to the Examiner's objections and rejections to advance prosecution of this application. Applicants respectfully submit that all formal and substantive requirements for patentability have been met and that this case is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

No additional fee is believed to be due. However, please apply any fees or credits to Deposit Account 06-1510 (Ford Global Technologies, LLC). If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No.06-1505.

Respectfully submitted:



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